

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

storing in memory at least one of audio data and video data of an event, the video data comprising a series of picture frames;

storing at least one of the audio data and the video data in a loop buffer;

receiving vehicular data describing powertrain management system information, electrical management system information, and chassis management system information, the powertrain management system information comprising an error code associated with a powertrain system;

storing a set of rules specifying data that causes a transfer of contents of the loop buffer to the memory;

when the vehicular data matches the data specified by the set of rules, then transferring the contents of the loop buffer to the memory, the contents providing at least one of time-delayed audio data and time-delayed video data, the time-delayed audio data and the time-delayed video data preceding an event associated with the vehicular data that causes the transfer of the contents of the loop buffer to the memory; and

tagging at least one of the time-delayed audio data and the time-delayed video data with metadata describing a rule of the set of rules that caused the contents of the loop buffer to be transferred to the memory.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein receiving the vehicular data comprises receiving data representing an output from at least one of a yaw, a pitch, and a roll accelerometer.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising transferring the contents of the loop buffer to a mass-storage device.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising transferring the contents of the loop buffer to an optical storage device.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising transferring the contents of the loop buffer to a flash memory storage device.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising communicating the contents of the loop buffer via a communications network.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising interfacing with a switch to transfer the contents of the loop buffer to the memory.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein receiving the vehicular data comprises receiving data representing an output from an electrical sensor.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising tagging the video data with a description of the contents of the loop buffer.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising interfacing with means for sensing the event.

11. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

- storing in memory at least one of audio data and video data of an event, the video data comprising a series of picture frames;
- storing at least one of the audio data and the video data in a loop buffer;
- storing a set of rules specifying a particular occurrence that causes a transfer of contents of the loop buffer to the memory;
- receiving information regarding an occurrence;
- when the occurrence matches the particular occurrence specified in the set of rules, then transferring the contents of the loop buffer to the memory, the contents of the loop buffer providing at least one of time-delayed audio data and time-delayed video data, the time-

delayed audio data and the time-delayed video data preceding the occurrence that causes the transfer of the contents of the loop buffer to the memory; and

tagging at least one of the time-delayed audio data and the time-delayed video data with metadata describing a rule of the set of rules that caused the contents of the loop buffer to be transferred to the memory, the metadata further comprising audio and textual narration that describes the at least one of the time-delayed audio data and the time-delayed video data.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further comprising transferring the contents of the loop buffer to an optical storage device.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the particular occurrence that causes a transfer of the contents of the loop buffer to the memory is associated with vehicular data including at least one of powertrain management system information, electrical management system information, and chassis management system information.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13, wherein the vehicular data represents an output from at least one of a yaw, a pitch, and a roll accelerometer.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, further comprising interfacing with means for sensing the occurrence.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further comprising communicating the contents of the loop buffer via a communications network.

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, further comprising tagging the video data with a description of the contents of the loop buffer.

18. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
storing in memory at least one of audio data and video data of an event, the video data comprising a series of picture frames;
storing at least one of the audio data and the video data in a loop buffer;

specifying i) multiple regions of interest within a single picture frame and ii) multiple regions of disinterest within the single picture frame;

receiving vehicular data describing powertrain management system information, electrical management system information, and chassis management system information;

storing a set of rules specifying data that causes a transfer of contents of the loop buffer to the memory;

when the vehicular data matches the data specified in the set of rules, then transferring the contents of the loop buffer to the memory, the contents of the loop buffer transferred at a first bitrate associated with the multiple regions of interest if the vehicular data is associated with the multiple regions of interest and the contents of the loop buffer transferred at a second bitrate associated with the multiple regions of disinterest if the vehicular data is associated with the multiple regions of disinterest, the contents of the loop buffer providing at least one of time-delayed audio data and time-delayed video data, the time-delayed audio data and the time-delayed video data preceding in time an event associated with the vehicular data that causes the transfer of the contents of the loop buffer to the memory;

providing a manual switch in a vehicle for causing the transfer of the contents of the loop buffer to the memory;

in response to activation of the switch, transferring the contents of the loop buffer to the memory; and

tagging at least one of the time-delayed audio data and the time-delayed video data with metadata describing a rule of the set of rules that caused the contents of the loop buffer to be transferred to the memory.

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 18, wherein receiving the vehicular data comprises receiving data representing an output from at least one of a yaw, a pitch, and a roll accelerometer.

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 18, further comprising applying the set of rules to dynamically vary the bitrate of the transferred contents of the loop buffer.